

28th February 2025

Dear Parent and Carers

We're very sorry for the confusion about the different meetings that are being held in March to discuss the development of a parent carer led forum on the island.

All four of the meetings will be led by Gail Bedding from Contact. Contact is the national charity supporting families of children with SEND and they are supporting all parent carer forums across England. The meetings are also supported by the Island's Local Authority and health strategic partners – everyone is working together to make sure that the new forum model is led by parent carers on the island.

There will be 4 events throughout March that will give parent carers an opportunity to hear about coproduction, the Genuine Partnerships four cornerstones of coproduction, the role of a forum, different forum models and have your say in how a forum might be set up and run on the Island. You will also be able to register your interest in being involved in the development of the forum.

We want to make sure that all parent carers on the Island have an opportunity to share their views about the development of a forum. All parent carers of children and young people with SEND are welcome.

The first two events will be with Gail Bedding from Contact and these are being held on:

- Wednesday 5th March 10-12
- Tuesday 18th March from 7-9pm

Both of these events are via zoom and you can book onto these via Gail.bedding@contact.org.uk

The other two events are with Gail Bedding plus Ashley Whittaker (Director of Children's Services), Naomi Carter (service Director Education, Inclusion and Access) and Emma Meek (Strategic Lead for Children's Care NHS Hampshire and Isle of Wight). These events will also give you an opportunity to share your experiences of services on the Island.

These events are being held on:

- 25th March from 10-12 at the Riverside
- 26th March from 5.30 to 7.30 pm on TEAMS

To book onto any of the events please contact Gail.bedding@contact.org.uk

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